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Al a cargo platform;
an attachment mechanism for removably securing said cargo platform directly to said spine member;
at least one channel member for carrying a bicycle; and
a second attachment mechanism for removably securing said at least channel member transversely and directly to said spine member with the removal of said cargo platform.

Remarks

Claim 1 was deleted in the above-identified application. Presently, claims 2 - 9 are pending in the above-identified application. No new matter has been added.

The independent claims presently recite limitations for two distinct equipment mounting hardware devices that are separately mounted directly to the spine member. This provides a unique system for providing versatility in an equipment transportation system. The system can be quickly configured for the appropriate equipment transportation.

None of the cited prior art references disclose, suggest or teach such limitations. Stark discloses a golf bag transportation system wherein the golf bag pan 12 is permanently secured to the shank (spine member) 30. A receptacle 44 allows another carrier or trailer to be attached to the system. However, the golf bag pan may not be removed at any time, thus reducing the versatility of the system.

Belinky et al. discloses a cargo carrier system wherein a cargo platform 16 to be removably attached to spine member 18. A bicycle carrier 106 may be mounted to the cargo platform. However, there is no disclosure or suggestion of removing the cargo platform and securing only the bicycle carrier to the spine member, particularly in that the bicycle carrier requires the platform in order to be operable.

Since none of the cited prior art references disclose, suggest or teach these limitations, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2 - 9 be allowed. The Applicant respectfully submits the claims in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

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By: Glenn L. Webb
Glenn L. Webb, Reg. 32,668
PO 951
Conifer, CO 80433
(303) 838-8610
glenn@WebbLewis.com